

#### **MINUTES**

# DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING Monday – November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 12:00 NOON Downtown Development Authority 350 SE 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Delray Beach, FL

#### 1. Call to order/Roll Call - 12:03 Noon

Members Present: Richard Burgess, Vera Woodson, Cole Devitt, Brian Rosen, Mark Denkler, Aaron Hallyburton, Christina Godbout (via Zoom).

Members Absent: None.

Staff: Laura Simon, Liliana Fino, Suzanne Boyd, BJ Sklar, Marusca Gatto, Danielle Morien, Devin Dewane. Guests: Jeffrey Oris, Alan Costilo, Mavis Benson, Karen Alweil, Roy M. Simon, Seth Mitchell, Lori J. Durante, Michel Abdelmessih, Cecelia Boone, Joe Josemond, Mike Karali, Missie Barletto, Art Ayala, Sgt. Guillaume, Christine Tibs, Renee Jadusingh, Ashlyn Darden, Siobhan Boroian, Christina Morrison, Lori Johnson. Zoom: FLHC, Julen Blakenship, Donna Walsh, Jeff dash, Lynn Gelin, Tina Hutchinson, Juli, Lee Cohen, Rob Long, G. Carter, Kim Thomas, John Deremer, Nicolas Espier, Cynthia Buisson, Stephanie Immelman, John Wieland, Eric Fernandez, Eva Siller, Christina Godbout, Otis, Michael Schippani, Maura, Sherine, Missie Barletto, Danielle Morien, Donna and 1 more attendee through "Dial In".

# 2. Approval of Consent Agenda:

**Motion** by Mark Denkler, seconded by Vera Woodson, to approve the consent agenda (Items Ai. - Oct. 10,2023 Board Meeting Minutes; B - Finances of Oct. 2023) as presented. Motion carries (6-0) through roll call (Christina Godbout not present):

Aaron Hallyburton – Yes Mark Denkler – Yes Brian Rosen – Yes Cole Devitt – Yes Vera Woodson – Yes Rick Burgess – Yes.

#### 3. Approval of Regular Agenda – November 13, 2023

**Motion** by Mark Denkler, seconded by Vera Woodson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carries (6-0) through roll call (Christina Godbout not present).

Rick Burgess – Yes Vera Woodson – Yes Cole Devitt – Yes Brian Rosen – Yes Mark Denkler – Yes Aaron Hallyburton – Yes.

# 4. Public Comments and Delray Beach Partner Reports (City, CRA, Chamber, etc.) – Comments limited to 2 Minutes

# **City Partners Reports:**

- Report by Stephanie Immelman, Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce, Chief Executive Officer;
- Report by Sgt. Guillaume, Delray Beach Police Department Sergeant.

#### **Public Comments:**

<u>Public Comment by Roy Simon (Delray Beach, Resident; previous DDA Board Member Chairman and founder and father of the DDA Executive Director, Laura Simon):</u>

Mr. Roy Simon explains that one of the reasons the DDA was created (in 1971) was to cooperate in solving the major parking issues the downtown area was going through at that point in time. He highlights that at that time the employees did not have a place to park and therefore the DDA bought some parcels and helped creating different lot for patrons and employees such as the Railroad parking lot, the Gladiola Parking lot and the Veteran's Park parking lot. He suggests keeping those lots free, accessible for both patrons and employees.

# 12:07pm - Ms. Christina Godbout arrives at the meeting (via zoom).

<u>Public Comment by Mavis Benson (Downtown Merchant and Business Association, Chair and, also, representing Avalon Gallery):</u>

Ms. Mavis Benson educates the DDA Board on the purpose of the Downtown Merchant and Business Association is to provide a form for the Downtown businesses to collaborate on programs communicate amongst the organization and community and be a collective voice that advocates for activities that promote the retention and smart growth of the downtown business's community. The Association is nearly 30+ years old. The Association meets monthly with the DDA. The DDA acts as a facilitator, when issues arise the feedback of the merchants is essential to get a solution together. Ms. Mavis Benson reports that at the last meeting, between the DDA and the Downtown Merchant and Business Association (November the 7<sup>th</sup>) (where the main discussion items were Surface Lot Parking Changes and the Employee Parking Pilot Program) the merchants feedback was that the proposed parking plan, presented by the City, having significant impact the downtown businesses, should allow for public feedback before the plan goes into place. She adds that the success of a parking program relies on the collaboration between the City and the downtown businesses, as the feedback from the merchants is of great value to improve economic vitality and community wellbeing. Therefore, she suggests the DDA Board draft a letter to the City Commissioners requesting the execution of the plan to be placed on hold until a merchant workshop meeting with the merchants and the City is set.

# Public Comment by Shioban Boroian (representing Morley, Periwinkle, and Coco & Co.):

Ms. Shioban Boroian agrees with Mavis Benson suggestion (she was present at the DDA and Downtown Merchant and Business Association meeting of November 7<sup>th</sup>). She comments that the solution proposed does not work for the businesses she represents. She adds that the quantity of spaces to be reserved for the employees (200) at the Old School Square (OSS) parking garage is not enough for all (6000) the employees working in downtown Delray to park there. She also shows her concerns about aged employees having to walk, such a great length back and forth to the garage by themselves, having 99 registered sex offenders in the area. She emphasizes that none of her employees feel comfortable with this program. Therefore, the businesses she represents are putting out a petition. She also adds that from the patron's perspective, turning the Railroad lot metered with a 3-hour maximum parking limit, will not



give enough time for the patrons, as they shop, dine, and stroll around. Lastly, she adds that it is hard enough as it is, from a small business perspective, having to compete with the big online markets of Amazon, Revolve, Shopbop and others.

#### Public Comment by Christina Morrison (Delray Beach, resident):

Ms. Christina Morrison reports that she was present at the DDA and Downtown Merchant and Business Association meeting of November 7th, and as per the merchant's feedback, the parking plan implementation is a premature decision. The OSS parking garage is too far for some of the employees, and it gets dangerous if they need to carry money with them. She suggests a sticker program so they can park at a parking lot closer to the businesses. She adds that the spaces to be made available for employees to park at the OSS parking garage are not enough for all the employees working in the downtown area. She concludes by saying that there are no parking issues during the day (no lack of parking), so she suggests starting to charge for parking from 5 PM on.

# Public Comment by Karen Alweil (representing Stiches-by-the-Sea):

Mr. Karen Alweil comments that 96% of the businesses in Delray Beach are small businesses. She states that she cannot afford to pay her employees to park. She also shows concerns about having her elder employees having to walk such a long distance from her business (Stiches-by-the-Sea, at 710 E Atlantic Ave) to the OSS parking garage. Even with a shuttle is not a realistic program, seeing that many employees have to carry things with them and also will have to add extra time to their commute, so they can make it to work. She adds that this program is not cost effective for the merchants. She concludes by saying that, as a patron, she does not have an issue with paying for parking when dining on a Saturday evening in downtown Delray Beach.

#### Public Comment by Art Ayala (representing Huber's Pharmacy):

Mr. Art Ayala comments that over half of Huber's Pharmacy customers are short-term patrons who enter to pick up prescriptions and leave right after. If these patrons have to pay for parking, Huber's Pharmacy may have to close, as it will not be reasonable for them to have to pay for parking. He suggests leaving a couple of parking spots assigned for short-term free parking (15 to 20 minutes maximum) at the Railroad Parking Lot.

#### Public Comment by Lori J. Durante (Delray Beach, resident):

She adds that she supports the position of the downtown merchants on the matters of parking. She mentions that between 4th and 3rd Streets the paid parking lot is usually empty, as patrons tend to park in the surrounding free parking spaces. So, she enquires if turning free parking lots will bring revenue, seeing that patrons tend to choose free parking locations. She adds that in her opinion, the more paid parking locations, the more it will pull patrons away from the downtown Delray area.

# Public Comment by Tina Hutchinson (representing J & J Seafood Bar & Grill):

Ms. Tina Hutchinson comments that parking has always been an issue in the area where her business is located (634 East Atlantic Avenue), adding that if the new City parking plan will be implemented will just make the parking issues worse. She adds that her business has employees leaving work late at night and that they will not feel safe walking such a long distance back to the OSS parking garage. She agrees with the concerns voiced by the merchants that have spoken previously (Ms. Shioban Boiran, Ms. Karen Alweil, Ms. Mavis Benson) and the suggestion of having this plan discussed between the City and the merchants, to work out a better solution.



# Public Comment by John Deremer (representing the businesses at 80 NE 4th Avenue, property owner)

Mr. John Deremer voices his concerns as altering the Railroad lot from free to a paid parking lot will be a big challenge for both patrons and employees as they both use the Railroad parking lot as their preferred parking location. He also states that there will be a negative financial impact for the businesses affected by the new plan, eventually leading them to leave the Delray Beach downtown area. Seeing that employees will encounter hardships working in the downtown area, they will choose other areas and the businesses will be forced to close. Consequently, the property owners will struggle finding tenants and therefore the property values will decrease.

# Public Comment by Cecilia Boone (Delray Beach, resident)

Ms. Cecilia Boone agrees with the suggestions of holding off on the implementation of the new Parking Plan before having a workshop meeting between the City and the merchants to work on a solution.

# 5. Development Services: Downtown Delray Beach Site Plan review and approvals:

# A. 302 NE 6th Avenue – Mural – Mitch Arim/ Rodney Mayo

Mr. Michel Abdelmessih (MAC<sup>2</sup> LLC, President/Construction Manager) presents item 302 NE 6th Avenue – Mural.

Ms. Vera Woodson comments that she does not agree with the design of this mural. She explains that the theme of this mural does not align with the other murals around town. She suggests a more resort-like style for the mural theme.

Mr. Rick Burgess agrees that the theme for this mural is not a good fit.

Mr. Cole Devitt also agrees on the fact that the theme of this mural is not cohesive with the other murals in downtown Delray Beach.

The City request is for the DDA to review this item according to the below:

Pursuant to Land Development Regulations Article 8.2, the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for the City of Delray Beach recommends as follows:

- That the proposed request implements the Downtown development plans (Downtown Master Plan, Pineapple Grove Master Plan, West Atlantic Master Plan, and the Shopability Analysis).
- 2. That the proposed request encourages economic development and promotes the Downtown as a prosperous Downtown Area.

**Motion** by Mark Denkler seconded by Vera Woodson to **DENY** the **302 NE 6th Avenue – Mural** as presented. Motion carried through a roll call – 7-0:

Rick Burgess – Yes
Vera Woodson – Yes
Cole Devitt – Yes
Brian Rosen – Yes
Christina Godbout – Yes
Mark Denkler – Yes
Aaron Hallyburton – Yes

Mr. Michel Abdelmessih comments that the theme can be changed, and that the applicant can present another option at a future DDA meeting for review.



Mr. Richard Burgess suggests presenting a couple of different options with softer colors.

Ms. Vera Woodson suggests the applicant look at the different murals located in downtown Delray Beach for inspiration.

# B. The Colony Hotel – 2023-154 - Level 2 Site Plan, Landscape Plan, Architectural Elevations, and Certificate of Appropriateness - Roy Simon / Boughton Hotels Inc.

Mr. Roy Simon (Roy M. Simon, A.I.A., Architect - previous DDA Board Member Chairman and founder and father of the DDA Executive Director, Laura Simon) present item Colony Hotel – 2023-154 - Level 2 Site Plan, Landscape Plan, Architectural Elevations, and Certificate of Appropriateness.

Ms. Vera Woodson enquires if the usage of barns doors is to allow for bigger equipment to go through.

Mr. Roy Simon confirms it and adds that the door is only 7 feet wide.

Mr. Brian Rosen asks if there are any adjustments to the project (compared to any other construction) seeing that the Colony Hotel is a historic building.

Mr. Roy Simon answers that the design needs to have the same look and feel as the historic building.

The City request is for the DDA to review this item according to the below:

Pursuant to Land Development Regulations Article 8.2, the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for the City of Delray Beach recommends as follows:

- 1. That the proposed request implements the Downtown development plans (Downtown Master Plan, Pineapple Grove Master Plan, West Atlantic Master Plan, and the Shopability Analysis).
  - Yes, was the DDA Board Members unanimous answer.
- 2. That the proposed request encourages economic development and promotes the Downtown as a prosperous Downtown Area.
  - Yes, was the DDA Board Members unanimous answer.

Motion by Mark Denkler seconded by Vera Woodson to approve the Colony Hotel – 2023-154 - Level 2 Site Plan, Landscape Plan, Architectural Elevations, and Certificate of Appropriateness as presented. Motion carried through a roll call – 7-0:

Aaron Hallyburton – Yes Mark Denkler – Yes Christina Godbout – Yes Brian Rosen – Yes Cole Devitt – Yes Vera Woodson – Yes Rick Burgess – Yes

#### 6. New Business

# A. DDA Art & Activation Grant Request - Delray Concourse D'Elegance - Max Zengage

Ms. Vera Woodson enquires if it is possible to have a calendar with the upcoming planned events and dollar amount in grants being requested (in a year) to the DDA by Delray Beach Concours D'Elegance, so the DDA ensures to be equitable providing those resources to more than one applicant only.

Mr. Cole Devitt agrees with the suggestion of Ms. Vera Woodson.

Ms. Vera Woodson suggests postponing this agenda item to the next DDA Board meeting, so the DDA Board can analyze that data.



Brian Rosen explains that Max Zengage (the grant applicant) does not have a salary when managing these events, and all the profits from these events go to charities. Therefore, the more the cost of an event, the less will go to charities.

It is the DDA Board consensus to postpone this agenda item to the next DDA Board meeting.

# B. The Delray Beach Green Market overview - R. Jadusingh/L. Johnson

Ms. Renee Jadusingh (Community Redevelopment Agency, Executive Director) gives an overview of the Delray Beach Green Market.

Ms. Vera Woodson says that, previously, she had given the suggestion of relocating the Green Market to the City's surface parking lot and asks if this suggestion was considered.

Ms. Renee Jadusingh answers that as per the Florida Fire Prevention Code the space is not big enough.

Ms. Vera Woodson suggests adding more vendors that sell products related to Delray (apart from produce vendors) and changing the vendors from time to time to always bring novelty and excitement to the customers.

Mr. Cole Devitt enquires about the maximum vendor capacity of the Green Market.

Ms. Renee Jadusingh answers that it is capped at 68 vendors maximum.

Mr. Mark Denkler suggests using the Old School Square Park grounds once the Holiday Village has left the grounds to enlarge the Green Market capacity.

Ms. Renee Jadusingh answers that is something that can be discussed in the future, as well as other options for the Summer Green Market season.

Mr. Brian Rosen enquires about using one of the land properties owned by the CRA on West Atlantic Avenue.

Ms. Renee Jadusingh answers that it is not possible because the space is not ADA compliant, and that the dumpster allocated for the Green Market is at Old School Square.

Mr. Rick Burgess states that a non-profit organization that has been a Green Market vendor for about 16 years, has sent him an email and called him voicing concerns as they might not be invited back as they have been told that the Green Market would be downsizing. He asks if the vendors acceptance process takes into consideration the vendors' longevity at the Market.

Ms. Renee Jadusingh answers that she came during the last DDA last Board meeting and spoke with the non-profit that voiced those concerns during the public comments at that meeting. She adds that the CRA, because they were rethinking the vendors mapping, didn't put out a vendor application for non-profits at that time.

Mr. Rick Burgess adds that apart from their longevity as a vendor at the Green Market, the services provided by the non-profit Animal Rescue are important to the community and therefore their application should be considered.

Ms. Renee Jadusingh answers that the vendor mapping has been restructured and therefore the CRA is accessing the space available with the new layout.

Ms. Lori Johnson answers that the food court is changing location and that will allow for more space, perhaps from 8 to 10 extra spaces. She adds that those spaces would be available at the upcoming Saturday Green Market.

Mr. Rick Burgess adds that new vendors should not be approved if there are long-standing vendors that were kept out.

Ms. Renee Jadusingh answers that there are even longer standing non-profits vendors than that particular one and that no non-profits have been taken in yet as the space has been remapped.

Ms. Vera Woodson asks if it is on the plans to enlarge the Delray Beach Green Market to a larger scale such as the Green Market in West Palm Beach.



Ms. Renee Jadusingh answers that that choice is the City's ultimate decision, and that as of now she thinks that is not on the City's goal. She adds that having a massive Green Market with about 200 vendors is too big of a scale.

Ms. Lori Johnson (Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, Green Market Manager) adds that there is not enough space available (even if the Green Market can expand to the Old School Square Park grounds) for loading in and load out of 200 vendors and if there is a need to close streets for that purpose that would require more City staff (Police Department).

Ms. Renee Jadusingh adds that the CRA has rescheduled the Crafted On The Avenue Market (taking place at Libbey Wesley plaza once a month) to coincide with the Weekly Saturday Green Market at OSS so the public can visit both of them and therefore promoting foot traffic from East to West of Swinton Avenue. Ms. Laura Simon suggests looking at a different layout. She adds that the monthly Coco Market has a similar number of vendors, but has a different layout, which seems to promote a good flow.

Ms. Renee Jadusingh suggests having more collaborations either through activations or others (concerts on the stage, have the concession bar open...) as opposed to expand the market.

Ms. Lori Johson states that the vendors are happy with the layout and that they sell their products by the end of the market.

# C. Surface Lot Parking, City of Delray Beach - Missie Barletto

Ms. Missie Barletto (City of Delray Beach, Public Works Department, Director) gives updates (as per PowerPoint presentation given) on the new Parking and Curbside Management Plan which was presented to the Parking Management Advisory Board (PMAB) at the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. This new program includes the implementation of metered parking on the public surface parking lots in downtown Delray Beach (except for the Veteran's parking lot as of now). At that meeting the general comments from the PMAB were in favor of the implementation of metered parking and there was discussion in regard to extending the maximum time parking limits (suggested to be a 3-hour maximum parking limit as of now). She continues saying that at the November 9th City Commission meeting the City Manager's direction was to meter only Railroad Lot at this time. She adds that the metered system is set to be in place on January 8th, 2024. The City, therefore, requests feedback from the DDA Board.

Mr. Cole Devitt asks how often does the application gets updated (for the customers to know how many parking spots are available at any given time).

Ms. Missie Barletto answers that the application gets updated immediately.

Mr. Mark Denkler enquires if there is digital road signage road signage informing the customers of the number of parking spots available at the different parking lots.

Ms. Missie Barletto answers that the number of spaces available will showcase on the app, but no digital signage will be placed around town.

Mr. Brian Rosen comments that it makes sense, in his opinion, to promote more parking turnover. He adds that the Employee Parking Pilot program is a start and that this program can be revisited if it does not work out. He adds that the DDA should be an advocate on the communication of any parking information (either to the visitors, residents, or businesses in downtown Delray Beach).

Ms. Vera Woodson comments that the turnover on parking brings benefits to the merchants. She adds that the safety issue voiced by some of the merchants at the previous Downtown Merchant and Business Association meeting is of mention, and that she is concerned that there is no plan in place to ensure safety of those employees (who work evening shifts) when returning to the Old School Square parking garage at night.

Ms. Missie Barletto comments that she will discuss these concerns with the Police Department.

Mr. Brian Rosen suggests extending the parking limit time to allow 4 hours before turnover, instead of 3.



Ms. Vera suggests revisiting the parking signage (maximum parking time allowed, and allowed/not allowed parking locations...), seeing that it seems confusing sometimes, from the client's perspective.

Mr. Cole Devitt comments that he does not agree with the decision to turn the parking lots proposed into paid lots. He adds that the locals he knows will not visit downtown if they need to pay for parking. He adds that the merchants do not agree either, according to the feedback from the Downtown Merchant and Business Association meeting. He concludes by saying that this decision will not drive economic vitality, on the contrary.

Mr. Mark Denkler comments that he agrees with Mr. Cole Devitt. He adds that when he had his store on Atlantic Avenue and the first paid parking program was implemented it did not help his business. He also adds that there is competition from surrounding areas that have free parking, such as Mizner Park in Boca Raton, and competition from online shopping platforms. Mr. Mark Denkler adds that during the day, there are no issues with parking, therefore no need for turnover, and so parking should be free. He concludes by saying that if the number of parking spaces available will only be displayed on the app, which will not help the customers navigate downtown when searching for parking, because many of the customers use the meters and not the app.

Mr. Aaron Hallyburton comments that multiple parking surveys have been done so far, and the reports say that there are enough parking spaces in town, but it is not managed correctly. The Old School Square parking garage is never full, the parking garage at IPIC is never filled either. He states that having the Railroad parking metered and the Employee Parking program in place will allow for the patrons to use the Railroad more than when it was a free lot (because it was taken over mostly by employees). He adds that at the Downtown Merchant and Business Association meeting some of the merchants said a good option would be to start paid parking only after 4pm.

Ms. Christina Godbout agrees with Mr. Aaron Hallyburton's opinion. She suggests starting the paid parking program with one lot at a time and perceive the merchants and residents feedback in the meantime.

Mr. Rick Burgess says he understands the concerns of the merchants regarding safety issues but adds that crime can happen anywhere. He adds that having some free parking lots available is advantageous to Delray Beach, but as issues with parking persist (patrons saying that cannot find parking) the paid parking program should be deployed and reviewed afterwards for adjustments. He finishes saying that the income resulted from the parking fees might help the city in important matters such as hiring more Police Officers, or help solving issues among the homeless population. He says he agrees with the Employee Pilot Parking Program

Ms. Vera Woodson comments that most cities on the coastline have metered parking. She adds that developing parking turnover is beneficial for the businesses.

Mr. Rick Burgess comments that it is important to have lighting structures to prevent issues with safety and perhaps more security officers.

Mr. Mark Denkler comments that, as a taxpayer, he would not like the idea of not having the option of having free parking in downtown Delray Beach.

Mr. Aaron Hallyburton suggests starting the paid parking program later in the day (according to the merchant's feedback) and starting the program with the Railroad parking lot first.

Mr. Cole Devitt suggests having a reserved short period parking space for pick-ups.

Ms. Vera Woodson suggests, as per some merchant's comments, to have at the Railroad parking lot, 2 parking spots reserved for free parking with a 20 min. limit.

Ms. Missie Barletto comments that it is hard to enforce short limit parking periods and adds that is the reason why if guests park on Atlantic Avenue the first 20 min. are free (with registration). She suggests starting the metered parking on those lots at noon to be in sync with the metered times on Atlantic Avenue.



Mr. Brian Rosen states that it is important as a DDA Board member to be involved in groups that discuss important matters regarding downtown issues, such as the Parking Management Advisory Board or the Downtown Merchant and Business Association, as a meeting once per month (DDA Board Meeting) is not enough.

#### 7. OLD Business

# A. DDA Overview & Program Updates – L. Simon/S. Boyd

Ms. Suzanne Boyd gives updates on past DDA events (Art and Jazz on the Avenue) and on upcoming DDA events (Shop Small initiatives, 100 ft Tree Lighting and Yuletide Street Fest event, Free Twilight Concert Series, and report on past and upcoming events at Old School Square.

Ms. Marusca Gatto gives updates on October's initiatives at the Cornell Art Museum (Wellness Wednesdays, First Friday Art Walk, museum attendance, donations, museum store sales, and tours) and on upcoming new exhibitions (Season of Red, Painting in Paradise and Reimagining Palm Beach.

#### i. Delray Camera Shop Mural update

Ms. Marusca Gatto gives updates on the status of the installation of the Delray Camera Shop Mural. She informs that the wall needs to be smoothed for the panels to go on the wall and adds that the panels are ready to hang, and that the artist will fill the space in between the panels after the murals are up.

Mr. Aaron Hallyburton comments that the mural is amazing and speaks to the history of Delray Beach.

#### ii. Pineapple Grove Street Pole Banners

Ms. Laura Simon gives updates on the status of the implementation of the new Pineapple Grove Street Pole banners.

Ms. Vera Woodson suggests using other colors for those banners to bring a cohesive look to all the banners in downtown Delray Beach. She suggests changing the green color to turquoise.

Ms. Laura Simon answers that the banners on Pineapple Grove can't be changed, as those colors were established long time ago as part of the branding in that neighborhood.

She adds that the DDA is planning on installing café lighting on The Set area, on NW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The cost will be \$16000. She adds that these are the same type of lights that were installed on Pineapple Grove, and they are sturdy. She concludes by saying that Commissioner Angela Burns is supportive of this project and feels that the neighborhood will benefit with the new café lighting.

# 8. Old School Square Business

#### A. November & December Programing

Ms. Marusca Gatto informs that for the First Friday Art Walk (on December 1<sup>st</sup>) Victorian Carolers will stroll through downtown, starting at the Cornell Art Museum Friday Art Walk.

#### 9. Board & DDA Staff Comments

Mr. Cole Devitt suggests advocating for the County Court House private parking lot to be open to the public for free. He also congratulates the DDA team on the last Art on Jazz on the Avenue event.

Mr. Rick Burgess comments that when attending DDA events, he gets great feedback from the DDA event goers. He comments that the DDA team does a great work.



Mr. Vera Woodson comments that she attended the last Homeless Task Force meeting, and states that they do great work. She adds that the DDA should collaborate more on working on solutions to help them in their endeavors. She also reports that an individual has been crossing town on a personal red golf cart, playing loud music and seems to be charging for rides.

Mr. Brian Rosen suggests that after a grant is approved and the event is done that the person presents a recap to the DDA Board (attendance, how much they collected for charity and other data). He also suggests activating Libby Wesley Plaza and perhaps collaborating with the future renter of the neighboring business to activate the plaza.

Mr. Cole Devitt advocates for landscape improvements in downtown Delray Beach.

Ms. Vera Woodson comments that perhaps adding colorful flowers would be more appealing to the visitors.

Mr. Mark Denkler comments that during his trips to Europe he has seen fruit trees on the landscaping, fruits that can be collected by the public when ripe. He also congratulates the DDA team on all their hard work.

No DDA Staff comments were provided.

#### 10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02pm through **motion** by Cole Devitt, seconded by Vera Woodson. All in favor (7-0).

Respectfully submitted, Liliana Fino

Cole Devitt, DDA Secretary

<u>/2-/3-23</u> DATE

